Sector Snapshot 2019: B.C. Seafood

Sector Defined: B.C.'s seafood sector comprises primary production from wild commercial fishing and aquaculture.

Primary seafood production does not include post-vessel or post-farm processing.

- ➤ B.C. consistently ranks as the 4th largest farmed Atlantic salmon producer in the world.
- ➤ B.C. led the nation in sales of farmed salmon, wild salmon, hake, halibut, wild clams, wild sablefish, rockfish, flatfishes, tuna, oysters, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, farmed clams, and skates, in 2019.



- \$ Sales: \$1.106 billion\$ Harvest: 283,005 tonnes\$ GDP: \$271.5 million
- Share of Provincial Total GDP*: 0.1%
 International Exports: \$1.414 billion
- Seafood Jobs: 3,705
- ➤ Total sales of primary seafood production in B.C. were \$1.106 billion in landed and farm-gate value a decrease of 13.2 percent below 2018.
- Approximately 2,351 vessels harvested 5.0 percent less wild fish, invertebrates, and algae & plants in 2019 than in 2018.
- ➤ The 182,684-tonne commercial fishery harvest generated a total landed value of \$397.0 million down 13.6 percent over 2018.
- ➤ The total aquaculture harvest of 100,321 tonnes was up 2.6 percent from the previous year, while farm-gate value decreased 13.0 percent to \$708.7 million.
- ➤ Top 10 seafood commodities in terms of sales were farmed Atlantic salmon, crabs, wild geoducks, halibut, hake, prawns, farmed Pacific salmon, wild sablefish, rockfish, and wild salmon.
- Total estimated GDP for seafood was \$271.5 million and accounted for 0.1 percent of B.C.'s total GDP*.
 * GDP excluding unlicensed cannabis.

SEAFOOD INTERNATIONAL EXPORTS

- Exported seafood products include both primary seafood production products and post-vessel and post-farm processed seafood products.
- In 2019, B.C. exported \$1.4 billion in seafood products to 70 markets, an increase of 2 percent in value from 2018.
- ➤ Top Five Seafood Export Markets: United States \$847 million (60 percent); China \$293 million (21 percent); Japan \$91 million (six percent); Hong Kong \$35 million (two percent); and Ukraine \$29 million (two percent).
- The fastest growing export markets of the top 10 markets were Nigeria (205 percent); United Kingdom (68 percent); Lithuania (17 percent); and U.S. (10 percent).
- ➤ Top Five Seafood Exports: \$562 million in farmed Atlantic salmon; \$207 million in crabs; \$103 million in hake; \$62 million in geoduck clams; and \$58 million in shrimp & prawns.





